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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/039,338	10/29/2001	Ernie L. Deacon	1332.0189C	3657
759	04/09/2003			
Irac C. Edell EPSTEIN, EDELL, SHAPIRO, FINNAN & LYTLE, LLC Suite 400 1901 Research Blvd. Rockville, MD 20850			EXAMINER	
			PATTERSON, MARIE D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
,			3728	11/.
			DATE MAILED: 04/09/2003	14

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER

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See attached sheet.

Marie Patterson Primary Examiner Art Unit: 3728



Application/Control Number: 10/039,338

Art Unit: 3728

The reply brief filed 3/31/03 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

1. Telephone inquiries regarding the status of application or other general questions, by persons entitled to the information, "should be directed to the group clerical personnel and not to the Examiners. In as much as the official records and applications are located in the clerical section of the examining groups, the clerical personnel can readily provide status information without contacting the examiners", M.P.E.P. 203.08. The Group clerical receptionist number is (703) 308-1148 or the Tech Center 3700 Customer Service Center number is (703) 306-5648. For applicant's convenience, the Group Technological Center FAX number is (703) 872-9302. (Note that the Examiner cannot confirm receipt of faxes) Please identify Examiner of Art Unit _____ at the top of your cover sheet of any correspondence submitted.

Inquiries only concerning the **merits** of the examination should be directd to Marie Patterson whose telephone number is (703) 308-0069.

If in receiving this Office Action it is apparent to applicant that certain documents are missing, e.g. copies of references cited, form PTO-1449, for PTO-892, etc. requests for copies of such papers should be directed to (703) 308-1337.

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Marie Patterson Primary Examiner Art Unit 3728